SPECIAL NOTICES.

MADISON BUILDING ASSOCIATION, on the old plan. \$1 per share, short term rue about five years first meeting for payment of dues next FRIDAY NIGHT, December 5th, at Davis Hall, No. 615 7th street, opposite Patent Office. Subscription books now open. Stock may be taken at the meeting and at the following places: Noble D. harner, 643 Louisiana avenue; Frank Maler, No. 1625 7th street; M. P. Cafan, No. 615 7th street; Samuel Miller, No. 653 Pennsylvania avenue s.e., JAS L. BARBOUR, President, JOHN E. THOMPSON, Secretary.

THE FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING OF the SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION of the PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH in the DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA will be held at the Epiphany church, on TUESDAY, the 5th of December, at 72 pm. Election of officers. dec4-2t*

DR. NEWMAN'S THANKSGIVING SERMON will appear December 5th. Orders will be received by C. C. Purcell, 9th street; Brad. Adams. \$42 F street, or 1411 Pennsylvania avenue. Dealers supplied by the publishers. Price 25 cents. Address REEVES & TAGENHOFF, 21 H street northwest.

EDWARD SHOEMAKER,
Notary Public.
No. 148 Beall street, Georgetown, D. C. nov23-2w*

TEA, COFFEE, AND CHOCOLATE. COLD SODA and MINERAL WATERS all the Year 1429 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, Near Willard's Hotel.

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Dresses made in the most superior style and at reasonable prices by MME. WASHINGTON, up stairs nov15-tr SAMUEL G. YOUNG,

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AMUSEMENTS. NATIONAL THEATRE. Another Week of English Opera.

Monday-LA JOLIE PARFUMEUSE. Tuesday-LA FILLE DE MAD. ANGOT. Wednesday-THE GRAND DUCHESS. Thursday-GIROFLE-GIROFLA. riday-Benefit of Mme. Alice Oates-LA ARCH

Saturday Matinee—MAD. ANGOT.
Saturday Night—Double Bill—TRIAL BY JURY
and LES BAVARDS.
Dec. 11—CHAS. FECHTER—MONTE CRISTO.
Christmas Holidays—THE TWO ORPHANS.
dec4-tf

GRAND ART EXHIBITION FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION, IN LINCOLN HALL, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1876, AT 7% P. 1

Tickets-Adults, 25 cents; Children, 15 cents; to be had at Whitaker s, Ballantyne's, Association Rooms, IN AID OF

ST. ALOYSIUS SCHOOL BUILDING, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, AT MARINI'S HALL, BY THE CHOIR OF ST. ALOYSIUS CHURCH Assisted by Sig. ETTORE BARILI and other dis tinguished talent. Admission, 50 cents. decl-5t*

THEATER COMIQUE, Eleventh Street, Below Pennsylvania Avanue. OPEN THE YEAR ROUND. Performance EVERY NIGHT. Matinee for La-dies and Children EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

FIRST-CLASS IN EVERY RESPECT. Variety, Drama, Burlesque and Comedy. nov22-1 OLD No. On Exhibition (New No. 436 AT 439 7TH ST.) MARKRITER'S,

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FESTIVALS.

F A I R ST. PATRICK'S NEW CHURCH,

TALMADGE HALL,

F street, between 9th and 10th streets,

Commencing TUESDAY, December 5, and ending
THU 185DAY, December 14, 1876. dec5,7,9,12,13,14-61 THE LADIES OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH, 5TH Street, will open a

FAIR IN ST. JOSEPH'S HALL,

On the 4th of December, for the benefit of the Schools of that Parish.

The Fair will be continued for one week, under the direction of a committee, consisting of the following gentlemen: George Bergling, Francis Prott, Bernard Geier, Rudolph Eichhorn, Hermann Schelteis, and the Pastor, Rev. Mathias Alig.

decl-6t*

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BAPTIST CHURCH,
Corner of 8th and H streets northwest, will hold a
BAZAAR, commencing MONDAY, Dec. 4th, continuing three evenings. A large collection of useful and fancy articles will be offered for sale at very reasonable prices; also, Fruit, Flower, Supper and Ise
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Fine Vocal and Instrumental Music may be expected. Citizens and strangers are cordially invited
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FAdmittance, 10 cents.

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A large assortment, all new styles. IMPORTED M. W. GALT, BRO. & CO. nov28-tr

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Boys' suits reduced in proportion. Canton Flanne Drawers 35c. a job; Red Flannel Shirts and Drawers from 87c. up; White Dress Shirts from 75c. to 82. Cal nd see for yourselves.

NOTICE.
Arrive daily at 621 B street northwest, opposite the Baltimore and Potomac Railroad depot. NORFOLK OYSTERS, of the best quality, at wholesale and retail to Hotels, Restaurants, and private families. nov28-lm N. WHITE & CO. \$500 A MONTH to Active Men selling our Letter Copying Book. No press or water used. Sample copy worth \$3.00 free. Send stamp for circular. EXCELSIOR M F'G Co., 99 Madison and 132 Dearborn street. Chicago. nov27-lm

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Whenma Stai



Vol. 48-No. 7,391.

WASAINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1876.

guards which experience has proved neces-

sary for the protection of the honest natural-

TWO CENTS.

EVENING STAR.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE. To the Sena'e and House of Represen'atives:

In submitting my eighth and last annual message to Congress, it seems proper that I should refer to and in some degree recapitalate the events and official acts of the past eight years.

It was my fortune, or m'sfortune, to be called to the office of Chief Executive without any previous political training. From the age of seventeen, I had never even wit nessed the excitement attending a Presi dential campaign but twice antecedent to my own candidacy, and at but one o them was I eligible as a voter. Under such circumstances it is but reasonable to suppose that errors of judgment must have occurred. Even had they not, differences of o inton between the Executive, bound by an each to the strict performance of his duties and writers and debaters must have arisen. It is not necessarily evidence of blunder on the part of the Executive because there are these differences of views. Mistakes have been made, as all can see, and I admit, but, it seems to me, oftener in the selections made of the assistants appointed to aid in carrying out the various duties of administering the government-in nearly every case selected without a personal acquaintance with the appointee, but, upon recommendations of the representatives chosen directly by the people. It is imposs,ble where so many trusts are to be allotted that the right parties should be chosen in every instance. History shows that no administration, from the time of Washington to the present, has been free from these mistakes. But I lease comparisons to history, claiming only that I have acted in every instance from a conscientious desire to do what was right, constitutional within the law and for the very best interests of the whole people. Failures have been errors of judgment, not

My civil career commenced too at a most critical and difficult time. Less than four years before the country had emerged from a conflict such as no other nation had ever survived. Nearly one-half of the states had revolted against the government, and of those remaining faithful to the Union, a large per centage of the population sympathized with the rebellion and made an "enemy in the rear" almost as dangerous as the more honorable enemy in the front. The latter committed errors of judgment, but, they maintained them openly and courageously. The former received the protection of the government they would see destroyed and reaped all the pecuniary advantage to be gained out of the existing state of affairs, many of them by obtaining contracts and by swindling the government in the delivery of their goods. Immediately on the cessation of hostilities the then noble president, who had carried the country so far through its perils, fell a mar-tyr to his patriotism at the hands of an assasguration was filled up with wranglings between Congress and the new Executive as to the best mode of "reconstruction," or, to speak plainly, as to whether the control of the government should be thrown immediately into the hands of those who had so ree-nily and persistently tried to destroy it, or whether the victors should continue to have an equal voice with them in this control. Reconstruction, as finally agreed upon, means this, and only this, except that the late slave was enfranchised, giving an increase, as was supposed, to the Union-loving and Union-supporting votes. If free, in the full sense of the word, they would not disappoint this expectation. Hence at the beginning of my first administration, the work of reconstructionmuch embarrassed by the long delay-virtually commenced. It was the work of the legislative branch of the government. My province was wholly in approving their acts, which I did most heartily, urging the legislatures of states that had not yet done so to ratify the fifteenth amendment to the constitution. The country was laboring under an enormous debt contracted in the suppression of rebellion, and taxation was so oppressive as to discourage product on. Another danger also threatened us—a foreign war. The last difficulty had to be adjusted, and was adjusted without a war and in a manner highly honorable io all

parties concerned. Taxes have been reduced within the last seven years nearly three hundred millions of dollars, and the national debt has been reduced in the same time over four hundred and thirty-five millio s of dollars. By re-funding the six per cent. bonded debt for bonds bearing five, and four and one half per cent. interest, respectively, the annual interest has been reduced from over one hundred and thirty millions of dollars in 1869 to but little over one hundred millions of dollars in 1876. The balance of trade has been changed from over one hundred and thirty millions against the United States in 1869 to more than one hundred and twenty millions of dollars

in our favor in 1876. It is confidently believed that the balance of trade in favor of the United States will increase, not diminish, and that the pledge of Congress to resume specie payments in 1879 will be easily accomplished, even in the absence of much desired further legislation on the subject.

A policy has been adopted toward the In-dian tribes inhabiting a large portion of the territory of the United States, which has been humane and has substantially ended Indian hostilities in the whole land, except in a portion of Nebraska and Dakota, Wyoming and Montana Territoryles, the Black hills re-gion and approaches thereto. Hostilities there have grown out of the averice of the white man, who has violated our treaty stipulations in his search for gold. The question might be asked: why the Government has not enforced obedience to the terms of the treaty prohibitng the occupation of the Black Hills region by whites? The answer is simple. The first immigrants to the Black Hills were removed by troops, but rumors of rich discoveries of gold took into that region increased num-bers. Gold has actually been found in pay-

ing quantity, and an effort to remove the miners would only result in the desertion of the bulk of the troops that might be sent there to remove them. All difficulty in this matter has however been removed—subject to the approval of Congress—by a treaty ceding the Black Hills and approaches to settlement by citizens.

The subject of Indian policy and treatment is so fully set forth by the Secretary of the In-terior and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs and my views so fully expressed therein that I refer to their reports and recom-

mendations as my own The relations of the United States with foreign powers continue on a friendly footing. Questions have arisen from time to time in the foreign relations of the government, but the United States have been happily free dur-ing the past year from the complications and some of the foreign powers.

The diplomatic correspondence submitted herewith contains information as to certain of the matters which have occupied the gov-

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S.

CLOCKS, BRONZES,
MANTEL ORNAMENTS,
ERASS GOODS, &c.

The cordiality which attends our relations with the powers of the earth has been plainly shown by the general participation of foreign nations in the Exhibition which has just closed, and by the exertions made by distant powers to show their interest in and friendly feelings toward the United States in the components of the Centennial of the participation. moration of the Centennial of the nation. The government and people of the United States have not only fully appreciated this exhibition of kindly feeling, but it may be justly and fairly expected that no small benefits will result both to ourselves and other nations from a better acquaintance, and a better appreciation of our mutual advantages

Congress at its last session saw fit to reduce the amount usually appropriated for foreign intercourse by withholding appropriations for Representatives of the United States in certain foreign countries and for certain consular officers, and by reducing the amounts usually appropriated for certain other diplomatic posts, and thus necessitating a change in the grade of the representative. For these reasons, immediately upon the passage of the bill making appropriations for the diplomatic and consular service for the present fiscal year instructions were issued to the Representatives of the United States at Bolivia, Ecuador and Columbia, and to the consular officers to whom no appropriation had been made, to close their respective legations and consulates, and cease from the performance of their duties; and in like manner steps were immediately taken to substitute Charges d'Affaires for ministers resident in Portugal, Denmark, Greece, Switzerland, and Paraguay. Congress at its last session saw fit to reduce Representatives of the United States in certain foreign countries and for certain consular officers, and by reducing the amounts usually appropriated for certain other diplomatic posts, and thus necessitating a change in the grade of the representative. For these reasons, immediately upon the passage of the bill making appropriations for the diplomatic and consular service for the present fiscal year. Instructions were issued to the Representatives of the United States at Bolivia, Ecuador and Columbia, and to the consular officers to whom no appropriation had been made, to close their respective legations and consulates, and cease from the performance of their duties; and in like manner steps were immediately taken to substitute Charges d'Affaires for ministers resident in Portugal, Denmark, Greece, Switzerland, and Paraguay.

While thoroughly impressed with the wisdom of sound economy in the foreign service as in other branches of the Government,

I cannot escree the conclusion that in some | become possessed of all the privileges of citiinstances the withholding of appropriations will proge an expensive economy, and that the anail retrenchment secured by a change of grace in certain diplomatic posts is not an adequate consideration for the loss of infuence and importance which will attend our foreign representatives under this reduc-tion. I am of the opinion that a re-examina-tion of the subject will cause a change in some instances in the conclusions reached on these subjects at the last session of Congress.

The court of commissioners of Alabama claims, whose functions were continued by an act of the last session of Congress, until the 1st day of January, 1877, has carried on its labors with diligence and general satisfaction. By a report from the clerk of the court, transmitted herewith, bearing dat November 14, 1876, it appears that within the time now allowed by law the court wil have disposed of all the claims presented for adjudication. This report also contains a statement of the general results of the labors of the court to the date thereof. It is a cause of satisfaction that the method adopted for the satisfaction of the classes of claims sub mitted to the court, which are of long standing and justly entitled to early considera tion, should have proved successful and ac-

It is with satisfaction that I am enabled to state that the work of the joint commis-sion for determining the boundary line between the United States and British posses sions, from the northwest angle of the Lake of the Woods to the Rocky Mountains, commenced in 1/72, has been completed. The final agreements of the commissioners, with the maps, have been duly signed, and the work of the commission is complete.

The fixing of the boundary upon the Pacific coast by the protocol of March 10, 1873, pursuant to the award of the Emperor of Germany by article XXXIV of the treaty of Washington with the termination of the work of this commission adjusts and fixes the entire boundary between the United States and the British possessions, except as to the portion of the territory ceded by Russia to the United States under the treaty of 1867. The work entrusted to the commissioner and the officers of the army attached to the commission has been well and satisfactorily performed. The original of the final agreement of the commissioners signed upon the 29th of May, 1876, with the original "List of astronomical stations observed," the original official "List of monuments marking the international boundary line," and the maps, records and general reports relating to the commission, have been deposited in the Department of State. The official report of the commissioner on the part of the United States, with the report of the chief astrono-mer of the United States, will be submitted

I reserve for a separate communication to Congress a statement of the condition of the questions which lately arose with Great Britin, respecting the surrender of fugitive criminals under the treaty of 1842. The Ottoman government gave notice, under date of January 15, 1874, of its desire to terminate the treaty of 1862, concerning

to Congress within a short time.

commerce and navigation, pursuant to the provisions of the 22d article thereof. Under this notice the treaty terminated upon the 5th vited negotiations towards the conclusion of a new treaty. By the act of Congress of March 23, 1874, the President was authorized, when he should

receive satisfactory information that the Ot-toman government or that of Egypt had organized new tribunals likely to secure to citizens of the United States the same impartial justice enjoyed under the exercise of judicial functions by diplomatic and consu-lar efficers of the United States, to suspend the operation of the act of June 22, 1860, and to accept for citizens of the United States the jurisdiction of the new tribunals. Satisfactory information having been received of the organization of such new tribunals in Egypt I caused a proclamation to be issued upon the 27th of March last, suspending the opera-tion of the act of June 22, 1860, in Egypt according to the provisions of the act. A copy of the proclamation accompanies this me sage. The United States has united with the other powers in the organization of these courts. It is hoped that the jurisdictional questions which have arisen may be readily adjusted, and that this advance in judicial reform may be hindered by no obstacles.

The necessary legislation to carry into ef fect the convention respecting commercial respective concluded with the Hawaiian Islands in 1875 having been had, the proclamation to carry into effect the convention as provided by the act approved August 15, 1876, was duly issued upon the 9th day of September last. A copy thereof accompanies this message

The commotions which have been preva-lent in Mexico for some time past, and which unhappily seem to be not yet wholly quieted, have led to complaints of citizens of the United States of injuries by perso is in authority. It is hoped, however, that these will ultimately be adjusted to the satisfaction of both governments. The frontier o the United States in that quarter has not been exempt from acts of violence by citizens of one republic on those of the other The frequency of these is supposed to be increased and their adjustment made more difficult by the considerable changes in the course of the lower part of the Rio Grande river, which river is a part of the boundary etween the two countries. These change have placed on either side of that river por-tions of land which by existing conventions belong to the jurisdiction of the government on the opposite side of the river. The sub-ject of adjustment of this cause of difficulty is under consideration between the two re-

publics. The government of the United States of Colombia has paid the award in the case of the steamer Montijo, seized by authorities of that government some years since, and the amount has been transferred to the claim-

It is with satisfaction that I am able to an nounce that the joint commission for the adjustment of claims between the United States and Mexico, under the convention of 1868, the duration of which has been several times extended, has brought its labors to a close. extended, has brought its labors to a close. From the report of the agent of the United States which accompanies the papers transmitted herewith it will be seen that within the time limited by the commission, one thousand and seventeen claims on the part of citizens of the United States against Mexico, were referred to the commission. Of these claims eight hundred and thirty-one were dismissed or disallowed, and in one were dismissed or disallowed, and in one hundred and eighty-six cases awards were made in favor of the claimants against the Mexican Republic, amounting in the aggregate to four million one hundred and twenty-five thousand, six hundred and twenty-two dollars and twenty cents. Within the same period nine hundred and ninety-eight claims on the part of citizens of the Mexican Republic against the United States were referred to the commission. Of these claims eight hundred and thirty-one were dismissed or disallowed, and in one hundred and sixty-seven cases awards were made in favor of the claimants against the United States, amounting in the aggregate to one bundred and fifty thousand, four hundred and ninety-

eight dollars and forty-one cents.

By the terms of the convention the amount of these awards is to be deducted from the amount awarded in favor of our citizens against Mexico, and the balance only to be paid by Mexico to the United States, leaving the United States to make provision for this the United States to make provision for this awards in favor of its own. proportion of the awards in favor of its own

citizens.

I invite your attention to the legislation which will be necessary to provide for the payment. In this connection I am pleased to be able to express the acknowledgments due to Sir Edward Thornton, the umpire of the commission, who has given to the consideration of the large number of claims submitted to him much time, unwearied patience and that fairness and intelligence which are well known to belong to the accomplished representative of Great Britain, and which are likewise recognized by the representative in this country of the Republic of Mexico.

Monthly payments of a very small part of the amount due by the government of Venezuela to citizens of the United States, on account of claims of the latter against that gov-

on this question, afford opportunity for fraud and the want of uniformity in the proceed ings and records of the various courts, and in the forms of the certificates of naturaliza-tion issued, afford a constant source of diffi-I suggest no additional requirements to the acquisition of citizenship beyond those now existing, but I invite the earnest attention of Congress to the necessity and wisdom of some provisions regarding uniformity in the records and certificates, and providing against the frauds which frequently take place and for the vacating of a record of naturalization obtained in fraud. These provisions are needed in aid and for the protection of the honest citizen of foreign

birth, and for the want of which he is made to suffer not infrequently. The United States has insisted upon the right of expatriation and has obtained after a long struggle an admission of the principle contended for by acquiescence therein on the part of many foreign powers and by the conclusion of treaties on that subject. It is, however, but justice to the government to which such naturalized citizens have formerly owed allegiance, as well as to the United States, that certain fixed and definite rules should be adopted governing such cases and providing how expatriation may be accomplished. While emigrants in large numbers become citizens of the United States, it is also true that persons, both native-born and naturalized, once citizens of the United States, either by formal acts or as the effect of a series of facts and circumstances. abandon their citizenship and cease to be entitled to the protection of the United States, but continue on convenient occasions to assert a claim to protection in the absence of provisions on these questions. And in this connection I again invite your attention to the necessity of legislation concerning the marriages of American citizens contracted abroad and concerning the status of American women who may marry foreigners, and of children born of American parents in a

foreign country. The delicate and complicated questions continually occurring, with reference to raturlization, expatiation and the status of such persons as I have above referred to induce me to earnestly direct your attention

again to these subjects.

In like manner I repeat my recommendation that some means be provided for the hearing and determination of the just and subsisting claims of aliens upon the govern-ment of the United States within a reasonable limitation, and of such as may hereafter arise. While, by existing provisions of law. the Court of Claims may in certain cases be resorted to by an alien claimant, the absence of any general provisions governing all such cases, and the want of a tribunal skilled in the disposition of such cases upon recognized fixed and settled principles, either provides no remedy in many deserving cases or comels a consideration of such claims by gress or the executive departments of the It is believed that other governments are in advance of the United States upon this

question, and that the practice now adopted s entirely unsatisfactory. Congress by an act approved the 3d day of March, 1875, authorized the inhabitants of the territory of Colorado to form a state government, with the name of the state of Colorado, and therein provided for the admission of said state, when formed into the Union, upon an equal footing with the origi-

A constitution having been adopted and ratified by the people of that state, and the acting governor having certified to me the facts as provided by said act, together with a copy of such constitution and ordinances as provided for in the said act, and the provislons of the said act of Congress having been duly complied with, I issued a proclamation upon the 1st of August, 1876, a copy of which

s hereto annexed. The report of the Secretary of War shows that the army has been actively employed during the year in subduing, at the request of the Indian bureau, certain wild bands of the Sioux Indian nation and in preserving the peace at the south during the election. commission constituted under the act of July 24, 1876, to consider and report on the "whole subject of the reform and reorganization of the army" met in August last, and has collected a large mass of statistics and opinions bearing on the subject before it. These are now under consideration and their report is progressing. I am advised, though, by the president of the commission, that it will be impracticable to comply with the clause of the act requiring the report to be presented, through me, to Congress on the first day of this session, as there has not yet been time for that mature deliberation which the import-ance of the subject demands. Therefore I ask

that the time of making the report be extended to the 29th day of January, 1877.

In accordance with the resolution of August 15, 1876, the army regulations prepared under the act of March 1, 1875, have not been promulgated, but are held until after the report of the above mentioned complete. port of the above-mentioned commission shall have been received and acted upon. By the act of August 15, 1876, the cavalry force of the army was increased by 2,500 men. with the proviso that they should be discharged on the expiration of hostilities. Under this authority, the cavalry regiments have been strengthened and a portion of them are now in the field pursuing the rempants of the Indians with whom they have nants of the Indians with whom they have

been engaged during the Summer.

The estimates of the War Department are made up on the basis of the number of men authorized by law and their requirements as shown by years experience; and also with the purpose, on the part of the bureau officers, to provide for all contingencies that may arise luring the time for which the estimates are made. Exclusive of engineer estimates (pre-sented in accordance with acts of Congress calling for surveys and estimates for improvements at various localities) the estimates now presented are about six millions in excess of the appropriations for the years 1874-75 and 1875-76. This increase is asked in order to provide for the increased cavalry force (should their services be necessary) to prosecute economically work upon impor-tant public buildings, to provide for arma-ment of fortifications, and manufacture of small arms, and to replenish the working stock in the supply departments. The ap-propriations for these last named have, for the past few years, been so limited that the accumulations in store will be entirely exhausted during the present year, and it will be necessary to at once begin to replenish

I invite your special attention to the fol-lowing recommendation of the Secretary of First-That the claims under the act of July 4, 1864, for supplies taken by the army during the war, be removed from the offices of the quartermaster and commissary generals and transferred to the southern claims commission. These claims are of precisely similar nature to those now before the southern claims commission, and the War

department bureaus have not the clerical force for their examination nor proper ma-chinery for investigating the loyalty of the Second—That Congress sanction the scheme of an annuity fund for the benefit of the families of deceased officers, and that it also provide for the permanent organization of the signal service; both of which were reof the signal service; both of which were re-commended in my last annual message.

Third—That the manufacturing operations of the ordnance department be concentrated at three arsenals and an armory, and that the remaining arsenals be sold and the proceed applied to this object by the ordnance de-rariment.

The appropriations for river and harbor improvements for the current year were \$5,015,000. With my approval the Secretary of War directed that of this amount \$2,000,000 should be expended, and no new work should be begun and none prosecuted which were not of national importance. Subsequently this amount was increased to \$2,27,600, and the works are now progressing on this basis. The improvement of the South Pass of the Mississippi river, under James B. Eads and his associates, is progressing favorably. At the present time there is a channel of twenty and three-tenths (20 3-10ths) feet in depth between the jetties at the mouth of the Pass, and eighteen and one-half (18%) feet at the and eighteen and one-half (18%) feet at the head of the Pass. Neither channel, however, has the width required before payments can be made by the United States. A commission of eng neer officers is now examining these works, and their reports will be presented a

partment.

works, and their reports will be presented as soon as received.

The report of the Secretary of the Navy shows that branch of the service to be in condition as effective as it is possible to keep it with the means and authority given the department. It is, of course, not possible to rival the cost and progressive establishments

of great European powers with the old material of our navy, to which no increase has been authorized since the war, except the eight small cruisers built to supply the place of others which had gone to decay. Yet the most has been done that was possible with the means at command, and by substantially rebuilding some of our old ships with durable material and completely reputation. zenship of the United States, and the frequent occasions which induce such a lopted citizens to return to the country of their birth, render the subject of naturalization and the safeized citizen of paramount importance. The durable material, and completely repairing and refitting our monitor fleet, the navy has been gradually so brought up that though it very simplicity in the requirements of law does not maintain its relative position among the progressive navies of the world, it is now in a condition more powerful and effective than it ever has been in time of peace. The complete repairs of our five heavy iron-clads are only delayed on account of the inade-quacy of the appropriations made last year for the working bureaus of the department, which were actually less in amount than those made before the war, notwithstanding the greatly enhanced price of labor and materials and the increase in the cost of the naval service growing out of the universal rise and great expense of steam machinery The money necessary for these repairs should be provided at once, that they may be completed without further unnecessary delay and expense. When this is done all the strength that there is in our navy will be developed and useful to its full capacity, and it will be powerful for purposes of defense and also for offensive action should the necessity for that arise within a reasonable distance from our

shores. The fact that our navy is not more modern and powerful than it is has been made a cause of complaint against the Secretary of the Navy by persons who, at the same time, criticise and complain of his endeavors to bring the navy that we have to its best and most efficient condition; but the good sense of the country will understand that it is really due to his practical action that we have at this time any effective naval force at command. The report of the Postmaster General shows the excess of expenditures (excluding expenditures on account of previous years) over receipts, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1876, to be \$34.151,988.66.

Estimated expenditures for the fi-cal year ending June 30, 1878, are \$36.723,432.43. Estimated revenue for same period is \$30.615,165.00, leaving estimated excess of expenditure to be appropriated as a deficiency of \$6,678,267.43. The Postmaster General, like his predecessor, is convinced that a change in the basis of adjusting the salaries of postmasters of the fourth class is necessary for the good of the service, as well as for the interests of the government, and urgently recommends that the compensation of the class of postmasters above mentioned be based upon the business of their respective offices as ascertained from the sworn returns, to the auditor

of stamps cancelled. A few postmasters in the Southern States have expressed great apprehension of their personal safety on account of their connec tion with the postal service, and have specially requested that their reports of apprehended danger should not be made public lest it should result in the loss of their lives But no positive testimony of interterence has been submitted except in the case of a mail messenger at Spar-tinburg, in South Carol na, who reported that he had been violently driven of his pol tical affiliations. An assistant super ntendent of the railway mail service investigated this case and reported that the messenger had disappeared from his post, leaving his work to be performed by a substitute. The Postmaster General thinks this case is sufficiently suggestive to justify him in recommending that a more severe punish ment should be provided for the offense of assaulting any person in charge of the mails, or of retarding, or otherwise obstructing them by threats of personal injury. "A very gratifying result is presented in the fact that the deficiency of this department during the last fiscal year was reduced to

\$4,081,790.18 as against \$6,169,938.88 of the pre-

ceding year. The difference can be traced to

the large increase in its ordinary receipts,

which greatly exceeded the estimates therefor,)and a slight decrease in its expenditures. The ordinary receipts of the Post Office de-partment for the last seven fiscal years have increased at an average of over eight per cent. per annum; while the increase of expenditures for the same period has been but about five fifty per cent. per annum, and the de-crease of deficiency in the revenues has been at the rate of nearly two per cent. per annum. The report of the Commissioner of Agricul ture, accompanying this message, will be found one of great interest, marking, as it does, the great progress of the last century in the variety of products of the soil; increased knowledge and skill in the labor of producing, saving, and manipulating the same to prepare them for the use of man; in the improvements in machinery to aid the agri-culturist in his labors and in a knowledge of those scientific subjects necessary to a thorough system of economy in agricultural production, namely: chemistry, botany, ento-mology, &c. A study of this report by those interested in agriculture and deriving their support from it, will find it of value; in pointing out those articles which are raised in greater quantity than the needs of the world require and must sell therefore for less than the cost of production, and those which com-mand a profit over cost of production because

there is not an overproduction.

I call special attention to the need of the department for a new gallery for the reception of the exhibits returned from the Centennial Exhibition, including the exhibits donated by very many foreign nations; and to the recommendations of the Commissioner of

Agriculture generally.

The reports of the District Commissioners and the Board of Health are just received too late to read them and make recommen dations thereon-and are herewith submitted The International Exhibition held in Philadelphia this year in commemoration of the one hundredth anniversary of American independence has proven a great success, and will, no doubt, be of enduring advantage to the country. It has shown the great progress in the arts, sciences and mechanical skill made in a single century and demonstrated that we are but little behind older nations in any one branch, while in some we scarcely have a rival. It has served, too, not only to bring people and products of skill and labor from all parts of the world together, but, in bringing together peope from all sections of our own country, which must prove a great benefit in the information imparted and pride of country engendered.

It has been suggested by scientists interested in and connected with the Smithsonian Institution in a communication herewith, that the government exhibit be removed to the capital and a suitable building be erected or purchased for its accommodation as a perma-nent exhibit. I earnestly recommend this, and believing that Congress would second this view, I directed that all government exhibits at the centennial exhibition should remain where they are, except such as might be injured by remaining in a building not intended as a protection in inclement weather, or such as may be wanted by the department furnishing them, until the question of permanent exhibition is acted on.

Although the moneys appropriated by Congress to enable the participation of the several executive departments in the International Exhibition of 1876 were not sufficient tional Exhibition of 1876 were not sufficient to carry-out the undertaking to the full extent at first contemplated, it gives me pleasure to refer to the very efficient and creditable manner in which the board appointed from these several departments to provide an exhibition on the part of the government have discharged their duties with the funds placed at their command. Without a precedent to guide them in the preparation of such a display, the success of their labors was amply attested by the sustained attention which the contents of the Government Build. amply attested by the sustained attention which the contents of the Government Building attracted during the period of the Exhibition, from both foreign and native visitors. I am strongly impressed with the value of the collection made by the government for the purposes of the Exhibition, illustrating, as it does, the mineral resources of the country, the statistical and practical evidence of our growth as a nation, and the uses of the mechanical arts and the applications of applied science in the administration of the affairs of government.

mechanical arts and the applications of applied science in the administration of the affairs of government.

Many nations have voluntarily contributed their exhibits to the United States to increase the interest in any permanent exhibition Congress may provide for. For this act of generosity they should receive the thanks of the people, and I respectfully suggest that a resolution of Congress to that effect be adopted.

The attention of Congress cannot be too earne tly called to the necessity of throwing some greater safeguard over the method of choosing and declaring the election of a President. Under the present system there seems to be no provided remedy for contesting the election in any one state.

The remedy is partially, no doubt, in the enlightenment of electors. The compulsory support of the free school and the disfranchisement of all who cannot read and write the English language—after a fixed probation—would meet my hearty approval. I would not make this apply, however, to those already voters, but I would to all becoming

so after the expiration of the probation fixed upon. Foreigners coming to the country to become citizens who are educated in their own language would acquire the requisite knowledge of ours during the necessary resi-dence to obtain naturalization. If they did not take interest enough in our language to acquire sufficient knowledge of it to enable them to study the institutions and laws of the country intelligently, I would not confer upon them the right to make such laws nor to select those who do.

I append to this message for convenient reference, a synopsis of administrative events and of all recommendation to Congress made by me during the last seven years. Time show some of these recommendations not to have been wisely conceived, but I be-lieve the larger part will do no discredit to the administration.

One of these recommendations met with the united opposition of one political party in the Senate and with a strong opposition from the other, namely: The treaty annexation of Santo Domingo to the United States, to which I will specially refer, maintaining as I do, that if my views had been concurred in the country would be in a more prosperous condition to-day both politically and financially. Santo Domingo is fertile and upon its soil may be grown just those tropical products of which the United States use so much and which are produced or prepared for market now by slave labor almost exclusively; namely, sugar, coffee, dye woods, mahogany, tropical fruits, tobac co, &c. About 75 per cent of the exports of Cuba are consumed in the United States. A large percentage of the exports of Brazil also find the same market. These are paid for almost exclusively in coin, legislation, par ticularly in Cuba, being unfavorable to a mutual exchange of the products of each country. Flour shipped from the Mississippi river to Havana can pass by the very entrance to the city on its way to a port in Spain; then

pays a duty fixed upon articles to be re-exported, transferred to a Spanish vessel, and brought back almost to the point of starting, paying a second duty, and still leave a profit over what would be received by direct ship ment. All that is produced in Cuba could b produced in Santo Domingo. Being a part of the United States, commerce between the Island and mainland would be free. There would be no export duties on her shipments nor import duties on those coming here. There would be no import duties upon the supplies. machinery, etc., going from the states. The effect that would have been produced upon Cuban commerce with these advantages to a rival is observable at a glance. The Cu-ban question would have been settled long ago in favor of "Free Cuba." Hundreds of American vessels would now be advantageously used in transporting the valuable woods and other products of the soil of the island, to a market, and in carrying supplies and emigrants to it. The island is but sparsely settled, while it has an area sufficient for the profitable employment of several millions of people. The soil would have soon fallen into the hands of United States capitalists. hands of United States capitalists. The products are so valuable in commerce that emigration there would have been encouraged; the emancipated race of the south would have found there a congenial home, where their civil rights would not be disputed, and where their labor would be so much sought after that the poorest among them could have found the means to go. Thus, in cases of great oppression and cruelty, such as has been practiced upon them in many places within the last eleven years, whole communitiees would have sought refuge Santo Domingo. I do not suppose the whole race would have gone, nor is it desirable that they should go. Their labor is desirable indispensable almost - where they nov are. But the possession of this territory would have left the negro "master of the situation" by enabling him to demand his rights at home, on pain of finding them elesewhere.

I do not present these views now as a recommendation for a renewal of the subject of annexation; but I do refer to it to vindicate my previous action in regard to it. With the present Congress my official life terminates. It is not probable that public affairs will ever again receive attention from me further than as a citizen of the republic, always taking a deep interest in the honor, in-

Executive Mansion, December 5th, 1876. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRE

tegrity and prosperity of the whole land.

The report shows that the net revenues fo the fiscal year were \$287,482,039.16, and tha the fiscal year were \$25,452,039.16, and that the net expenditures were \$258,459,797.33, leaving a surplus revenue, exclusive of provisions for the sinking fund, of \$29,022,241 83.

The revenues yielded \$9,974,105.98 less than the estimate, and that the net expense amounted to \$9,987,746.43 less than was anti cipated, exhibiting a surplus revenue of \$29, 022,241.83, or \$13,640.45 in excess of the amount contemplated.

From the statement of actual receipts and expenditures for the first quarter, that ending September 30, and of the estimates of the same for the remaining three quarters, based upon existing laws, it is expected that the revenues for the current fiscal year will yield the sum of \$264,292,449.59, and that the expenditures will amount to \$237,628,753.35, which will leave a surplus revenue o \$26,663,696.24.

The amount which should be applied to the sinking fund is estimated at \$33,705,806.67. The surplus revenues will fall below that amount, in the opinion of the department, v not less than \$7.042,110.43. It is estimated that the receipts for the fis-cal year ending June 30, 1878, will be \$270, 050,000. For the same period the total esti-

mated expenditures, exclusive of the sinking fund account and principal of the public Upon the basis of these estimates, there will be a surplus revenue for the fiscal year 1878, applicable to the sinking fund, of \$26,699,296. The estimated amount required by law to be set apart for that fund is \$35,391,-096.60. If, therefore, these estimates shall prove to be approximately correct, there will be a deficiency in this account of \$8,691,-The reduction in the public debt is \$29,249,-

The terms of the law of February 25, 1862. required by the operations of a sinking-fund account, that the public debt should be reduced in the sum of \$433,848,215.37 between July 1, 1862, and the close of the last fiscal year. A reduction has been effected during that period of \$656,992,226.44, or \$223,144,011.07 more than was absolutely required.

It can therefore be said, as a matter of fact, that all of the pledges and obligations of the government to make provision for the sinking fund and the cancellation of the pub-

lic debt have been fully met and carried out.

Considerable space is given in the report to
the question of the resumption of specie payments, and the Secretary says: "the amoun of legal-tender notes outstanding November 1, 1876, was \$367,535,716. The amount of said notes on deposit for the purpose of retiring circulation was \$20,916,946. The amount of national bank notes in circulation on that day was \$29,143,464 less, and of legal tender \$11,464,284 less, than on January 14, 1875—a total decrease in circulation, under the operation of the act \$43,867,748 ation of the act, \$43,607,748. From these facts, as well as from the large accumulations of money at the money cen-ters and the lack of demand for it, it is ap-

parent that the volume of currency is largely in excess of the real demands of legitimat business, and that a portion of the legal-ten-ders might be gradually withdrawn without embarrassment to the business of the country. In the interest of permanent redemption, and as a means of maintaining the same, it is deemed important also, if not quite indis-pensable, that provision should be made re-quiring the national banks to gradually proquiring the national banks to gradually provide coin in such ratio as the Secretary of the Treasury may direct, and to hold the same as a part of their legal money reserve so that said reserve, on the first day of January, 1879, shall be equal in amount to the entire reserve required by law. To the same end, as the fractional currency is withdrawn it is deemed expedient that not only the vacuum caused thereby in the matter of change should be made good, but that, as additional change, the volume of silver should be increased to the amount of at least eighty millions of dollars, and silver made a legal tender to the amount of ten dollars in all cases, except the obligations of the government of the United States and the customs dues.

On the question of the payment of government obligations in coin the Secretary urges that the coin payment to which the faith of the nation was pledged in 1889 was gold and not silver, and that any other view of it whatever technical construction the language may be susceptible of, would be regarded as of doubtful good faith, and its probable effect prejudicial to the public credit.

The demand for silver coin for circulation, though growing less urgent, still continues fully equal to the capacity of the mints to supply it. Until this demand shall have ceased, the coinage will be continued as rapidity as practicable, to the limit authorized by law. vide coin in such ratio as the Secretar

(wing to the exhaustion of the appropriatwing to the exhaustion of the appropria-tion for transportation of United States notes at discourities, the express charges on legal-tender and fractional notes sent to this de-partment for redemption, and the returns therefor, have not been paid by the govern-ment since the 1st of March last. In consequence the redemption of such notes has greatly decreased, and the paper currency of the government is rapidly becoming unfit for circulation. An appropriation sufficient to meet the payment of such express charges is earnestly recommended.

Concerning the national banks the Secre-tary says: If the market value of United States bonds should remain unchanged, it is not probable that the amount of additional circulation to be issued from November 1, 1876, to January 1, 1879, (two years and two months,) would exceed \$18,000,000. If, however, there should be a material decline in the value of bonds, it is to be presumed that a considerable amount thereof would be redeosited by the banks which have withdrawn bonds amounting to \$65,102,800 since June 20, 1874. The profit on circulation depends upon the price paid for the bonds and upon the rate of interest. If the business of the country should revive, or the value of bonds decline, the amount of circulation must be largely increased. The profit on circulation is estimated at about two and a quarter per cent. In localities where the rate of interest is seven per cent., the value of circulation is about two and a half per cent.. where the rate s ten per cent., the profit is about one and a half per cent., at the present valuation of the

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

The annual report of the Secretary of the Navy has been transmitted to the President. It shows that there are in the service 123 steam vessels, carrying 913 guns; 23 sailing vessels, carrying 29 guns, and 21 iron-clad vessels, carrying 72 guns. Of the whole number of vessels 75 are at present in actual use. 4 are preparing and almost ready for sea, s are under repairs and 50 are laid up at the various navy yards.

The Secretary endorses the proposition of

the chief of the bureau of equipment and recruiting urging the establishment of a banking system for the navy similar to that now in force in the army. The army law authorizes the payment of interest at 4 per cent. upon all sums of \$50 and upward deposited by any enlisted man with the paymasters. subject to certain conditions and restrictions. If this system should be adopted for the navy, a careful estimate of the sum that would be required for the payment of the interest places it at but \$24,000 per annum.

In referring to the National Observatory,

the Secretary says: "Provided by wise lib-erality with the best instruments obtainable, the Naval Observatory has risen to a high rank, both at home and abroad, for efficiency and for the character of the work accom-plished, and has amply fulfilled the expectaions of its founders."

Speaking of the naval force, the Secretary says: "I think we may well dispense, for the present at least, with the heavy-armored and unwieldy iron-clads of European nations, and also with the monster cannon necessary to penetrate them. Any vessel which can safely cross the seas to enter our harbors on to lie upon our shores will be found vulnerable to cannon of moderate weight and caliber, while the heaviest armor will not protect a ship from the attacks of torpedoes managed by brave and well-instructed officers." The Secretary asks an appropriation of \$750,000 for the Bureau of Construction and Repair, to be made available at once, to complete the repairs of five double-turreted iron-clads. Speaking of the reduced pay of the naval officers, the Secretary says: "You are fully

aware how disagreeable this duty was to the

department; but you understood, also, how it had no alternative but to discharge it. Burdensome as its effect has been to the naval service, I am gratified to be able to say that it has been received by the officers generally with dignity and courage. There has been some fault-finding and some foolish criticisms; but the faultfinding, as far as lam aformed, has been confined to those have been least affected, and who, in the present, as in the past, have the least cause to complain of the favor of the Governmen or the action of the Department. Those who are charged with the burdens of official duty must expect always to meet the criticism of that class, who, without consideration or responsibility themselves, are ever ready to question the motives and actions of others, "After careful consideration of this subect, being convinced that Congress, when they fully understand it, will have no real desire to withhold from any branch of the service the pay which would accrue to it under the ordinary operations of the laws under the ordinary operations of the laws and customs governing the action of the department, and will not wish to deprive well-descrying officers, whose lives are consecrated to their country's service, and to whom no personal fault is imputed, of the means for the proper support and education of their families, I have, besides the ordinary extinates an additional estimate to submit estimates, an additional estimate to submit for the sum of \$1,550,000 to supply the inevitable deficiency in the "pay" appropriation, and to enable the department to rescind its order placing all unemployed officers on "furlough pay," and to make up to those who have been or may be so reduced, without fault on their part, the amount of pay which they would otherwise have received. Congress will be earnestly pressed to make this provision, and if they do so the department will have great gratification in carrying it out; otherwise the service and the depart-ment will have no alternative but to submit to the deficiency and the reduction which it

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR. Hon. Z. Chandler, Secretary of the Department of the Interior, in his report first

Progress and steady improvement is shown among them. The Secretary expresses the belief that the tardy passage of the annual appropriations by Congress had the effect to materially strengthen Sitting Bull's band. He recommends the concentration of all the land of the concentration of all the land of the concentration of the land Indians upon a few reservations, acceptance by them of lands in severalty, and the exten-sion over them of the United States law and jurisdiction of United States courts, and consequent dissolution of tribal organiza-tion, and believes this plan would save the government a large sum yearly. He recom-mends the enactment of laws for the protec-tion and the punishment of the Indians. He calls attention to the fact that Congress never paid the \$25,000 promised the Sioux by his predecessor for relinquishing the right to hunt in Nebraska, and says the Commissioner recommends the favorable consideration of this claim.

tion of this claim. 6,524,326.36 acres of public lands were disposed of during the year, which was less by 545,944.93 acres than the quantity sold during the previous year. The cash receipts were \$1,747,215.85; a sum less by \$32,400.42 than that received the previous year.

RAILWAYS.

The total bonded indebtedness of the Un The total bonded indebtedness of the Union-Pacific railway is \$79,072,312, of which \$27,-236,572 is due the United States. The indebtedness of the Central Pacific at the close of the fiscal year was \$89,061,508.43, of which \$27,855,680 is due the United States. The indebtedness of the Central branch of the Union Pacific, in addition to the government loan, and first mortgage of \$1,000,000 and interest. and first mortgage of \$1,000,000 and interest unpaid, is \$148,739.94.

The work of the Patent Office shows a gratifying increase in receipts and a decrease in expenditures, with a slight increase in the amount of labor performed. From October 1, 1875, to September 30, 1876, the total receipts from all sources were \$75, 586.75 and in ceipts from all sources were \$787,586.75, an increase over the previous year of \$55,300.88. The expenditures were \$661,637.76, or \$47,-286.59 less than those for the previous year. PENSIONS.

The whole number of names borne up the pension roll on the 30th of June, 1876, was 232,137. The amount paid for pensions was \$28,351,599.69, which includes cost of disburses28,331,599.69, which includes cost of disbursement, and is \$1,331,516.94 less than was expended for the same purpose during the preceding year. The estimate for the pension service for the next fiscal year is \$28,533,000. The Secretary endorses the recommendation of the Commissioner that the country be divided into districts, not exceeding sixty, giving to each a competent surgeon and an experienced clerk, whose duties it would be to personally examine the claimants and to personally examine the claimants and their witnesses, and transmit the result to the Pension Office.

The Secretary speaks in commendatory terms of the great work done by the Bureau of Education, and calls attention to Commissioner Eaton's earnest recommendation that some way be devised by the general government to make available for immediate educational purposes at least a portion of the income from the sale of public lands, and the devotion of the remainder to the creation of a permanent educational fund. EDUCATION

CENSUS OFFICE.

The work of stating the accounts of U. S. marshals in connection with taking the census of 1870, &c., has been satisfactorily performed by the chief clerk of the Census Office.

Nine hundred and thirty-one patients were under treatment, being an increase over the previous year of 18. Eighty-four were discharged recovered. The number of patients admitted during the year ending June 30 was 213. The average death rate was 79 in a thousand. The expenditures were \$167,773.42, and receipts \$167,777.21. If one-half the expense of District patients is borne by the District, as provided by law, the institution will require for its support \$154,583; for enlarging the gas works, slaughter house, &c., \$15,000; for general repairs, \$10,000; for a separate

[Continued on Fourth Page]